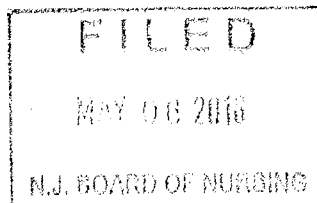


STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION OR :
REVOCATION OF THE CERTIFICATION OF : ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION
:
Shawnta N. Brown, C.H.H.A. :
Certificate No. 26NH11027400 : FINAL ORDER OF
DISCIPLINE
:
TO PRACTICE AS A :
HOMEMAKER-HOME HEALTH AIDE :
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY :



This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing (the "Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and upon which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Shawnta N. Brown ("Respondent") is a certified homemaker-home health aide in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.

2. The Board received a complaint on February 15, 2013 from Respondent's client ("CC") claiming that Respondent falsified time sheets and assaulted CC. The client also filed an

incident report with the Trenton Police Department on December 20, 2012 for harassment, assault and trespassing. Respondent made counter complaints against CC. CC provided a letter from the Dean of Mercer County Community College stating Respondent was in class when Respondent claimed she was caring for CC.

The Board sent a Demand for Statement Under Oath to Respondent's address of record in Trenton, New Jersey, via regular and certified mail on or about April 14, 2015. A response was due within twenty (20) days.

3. Respondent signed the certified mail receipt for the Demand for Statement Under Oath on April 18, 2015. Respondent has not responded to the Demand for Statement Under Oath.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent's failure to respond to the Board's Demand for Statement Under Oath constitutes a failure to cooperate with a Board investigation, in contravention of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.2 and 1.3, which the Board deems professional misconduct pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e), subjecting Respondent to disciplinary action pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h).

DISCUSSION

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of discipline seeking a suspension and a two hundred dollar (\$200) civil penalty was entered on August 14,

2015. Copies were served on Respondent via regular and certified mail to her last known address of record. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th business day following entry unless Respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting Respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefore.

Respondent initially replied to the Provisional Order by providing a disposition indicating that the criminal charges were dismissed. Respondent provided a supplemental response to the Provisional Order which included her answers to the Board's Demand for Statement under Oath, as well as a recent performance evaluation from her employer indicating that she meets or exceeds standards.

The Board considered Respondent's reply and determined to finalize the Provisional Order with modification. Inasmuch as Respondent belatedly cooperated with the Board's investigation, the Board determined that suspension of Respondent's certification was no longer warranted. However, the Board

determined that Respondent's failure to respond to the original inquiry, thereby necessitating the filing of the Provisional Order of Discipline, and review of Respondent's subsequent reply months later, warrants imposition of a two hundred dollar (\$200) civil penalty.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 6th day of May, 2016,
ORDERED that:

1. Respondent is assessed a civil penalty in the amount of two hundred dollars (\$200). Payment shall be made by certified check, bank cashier check, or money order payable to "State of New Jersey," or by wire transfer, direct deposit, or credit card payment delivered or mailed to Twalema Khonje, State Board of Nursing, P.O. Box 45010, Newark, New Jersey 07101. Any other form of payment will be rejected and will be returned to the party making the payment. Payment shall be made no later than fifteen (15) days after the date of filing of a FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE. In the event Respondent fails to make a timely payment, a certificate of debt shall be filed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 45:1-24 and the Board may bring such other proceedings as authorized by law.

2. The Board reserves the right to initiate disciplinary proceedings based upon any information that Respondent

ultimately provides in response to the Demand for Statement
Under Oath or upon any new information the Board receives.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By: 

Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN
President